

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 1, prior to the first paragraph which begins on line 2, please insert the following:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

On page 1, prior to the second paragraph which begins on line 6, please insert the following:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

On page 2, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 18, please insert the following:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 2, line 22 and ends on page 3, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The object is achieved according to the invention by ~~the gas sensor module as defined in the independent claim 1, the transmitter module as defined in the independent claim 8 and the modular gas sensor arrangement as defined in the independent claim 10~~[[.]]
[[The]] a gas sensor module of the invention includes: A primary sensor for registering a gas concentration; a digital data memory for storing sensor data or process data; and an interface for connecting to a superordinated unit for data exchange with the superordinated unit and for energy supply to the gas sensor module from the superordinated unit, and for the reading and/or writing of digital data from and/or to the digital memory, with the interface of the gas sensor module being a contactless interface. The contactless interface can, for example, be embodied as a contactless plug, or as a socket for a complementary, contactless plug.

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 3, line 8 and ends on line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The term "contactless" means that the sensor-side interface is electrically, or galvanically, insulated from the transmitter-side interface. The contactless interface can be, for example, an optical, capacitive or inductive interface, with an inductive interface being presently preferred. A corresponding interface is described, for example, in the European Patent Application No. 1 216 079 of Endress + Hauser ~~this assignee~~. Such European patent application is incorporated here by reference for details of the construction of the interface.

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 7, line 5 and ends on line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Data transmission via cable with contactless interfaces for connection to a sensor module and/or to a transmitter module are, for example, described in the not yet published, German patent application 102 20 450 of ~~the present assignee~~ Endress + Hauser, to which reference is made for details. A suitable type of transmission of data and energy within the cable harness, i.e. between the gas-sensor-module-side interface of the cable and the connection to the superordinated unit, occurs, for example, according to the RS485 protocol. Details in this connection are to be taken from the cited application.

On page 7, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 15, please insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

U.S. National Stage of PCT/EP2004/003176

On page 7, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 25, please insert the following:

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT